

c.) Remarks

Claims 26 and 28 have been amended in order to recite the present invention with the specificity required by statute. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner has made final the restriction requirement and objects to the specification since there is no Abstract. In response, an Abstract on a separate sheet is attached.

The specification is objected to since the sequences in Tables 2, 3 and 4 are not identified by sequence identifiers. As noted, Table 2 compares SEQ ID NO:1 to H-rev 107 (page 46, lines 18-20); H-rev 107 has been added to the sequence listing as SEQ ID NO:29. Table 3 compares SEQ ID NO:2 to SEQ ID NO:29, and Table 4 compares SEQ ID NO:6 to nematode putative protein F59F4.2 (page 52, lines 20-23; F59F4.2 has been added to the sequence listing as SEQ ID NO:30. Tables 2-4 have been amended accordingly. Moreover, a new Computer Readable Form and Paper Copy are enclosed. The CRF and Paper Copy are identical; no new matter has been added.

Claims 19-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as failing to be supported by a credible, specific and substantial, or a well-established, utility, as well as under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for not being supported by an enabling disclosure for the reasons noted from pages 6-10 of the Office Action. In response, Applicants respectfully wish to point out that SEQ ID NO:3 is identified as a subunit of NADH:ubiquinone oxidoreductase (complex 1), as evidenced by both BLAST search and Carroll, J. et al., *JBC* (2002) 277(52), 50311-17. Additionally, Murray, et al., *JBC* (2003) 278(16), 13619-22 confirms that inhibition of complex 1 is implicated in neurodegenerative disorders, including Parkinson's, as mentioned at specification page 29, line 19. Copies of the references are attached to the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement.

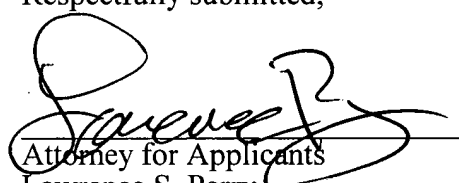
Claim 26 is also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for the reasons noted at pages 10-12. In response, claim 26 is amended to recite an appropriate function, as required by the Examiner. Claims 28-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for the reasons noted at page 12. The basis for the rejection of claim 28 is unclear since it is not reasonably seen how a "host cell" can be understood to encompass --human--, but the claim has nonetheless been rewritten as suggested by the Examiner in order to reduce the issues. The rejection of claims 29 and 30 is mooted by the amended claim 26.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that all of the Examiner's concerns are now overcome and the claims are now in allowable condition. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of this application is earnestly solicited.

Claims 19-30 remain presented for continued prosecution.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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